Taxation Laws (Second Amendment) Bill, 1999 was received in that Ministry on 24th May, 1999. Necessary comments of the concerned Ministries, namely, Information and Broadcasting, Environment and Forests, Textiles, and Finance and Company Affairs (Department of Revenue) were thereafter obtained and forwarded to the State Government on 19.2.2002, 3.4.2002, and 1.10.2002 respectively for certain clarifications, which are still awaited from the State Government.

Waterways from Kovalam to Manjeshwar in Kerala

2614. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRASEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to declare the waterways from Kovalam to Manjeshwar in Kerala as national inland navigation waterways; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Revival Programme for the Central Inland Water Transport Corporation

2615. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a revival programme has been worked out for the Central Inland Water Transport Corporation (CIWTC), Kolkata;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the programme is proposed to be implemented effectively and if so, by when; and

(d) whether Government have reasonable expectation from CIWTC showing signs of turnaround as a result of the revival programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR): (a) and (b) yes, Sir. The Government

of India has approved a revival plan for Central Inland Water Transport Corporation (CIWTC) Ltd., Kolkata on 26th June, 2001. The main features of the revival plan are:

(i) Focussing on streamlining the River Service Division.

(ii) Government will provide budgetary support of Rs. 76.35 Cr. for implementing the rehabilitation package.

(iii) Roll back the age of Superannuation from 60 years to 58 years.

(iv) Downsizing employee strength to 1400. The Government will provide funds to the tune of Rs. 27.07 Cr. for implementing Voluntary Retirement Scheme.

(v) Closure of Deep Sea Ship Repair (DSSR) Division. Disposal of Rajabagan Dockyard (RBD). CIWTC to dispose of land and assets of RBD and manpower services to be offered.

(vi) CIWTC will enter into a back to back arrangement with road transport agencies and examine further the feasibility for such an arrangement with rail transport so as to facilitate user agencies for getting a 'on stop' service;

(vii) CIWTC and Ministry of Shipping will enter into a MOU on the revenue and expenditure projections for the four-year reorganization period, which will be monitored by the Ministry to ensure that the projects are achieved;

(viii) Write off Government of India loan (Plan and Non-Plan) together with interest accrued thereon (amounting to Rs. 425.98 crore as on 31.3.2000).

(c) Yes, Sir. The revival programme has been phased over a 4 years period. The activities under the revival programme have commenced during the financial year 2001-02. The programme is being monitored by the Ministry through an MOU signed between Ministry and CIWTC.

(d) As per the approved revival plan, CIWTC will be required to achieve break even as far as financial performance is concerned in the 4th Year of the Plan.